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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton

FOR THE YEAR 1964

Rural District of South Molton

Telephone No. '
South Molton 2117

Public Health Department,
8, East Street,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1964

E. WILLIAMS
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

L.W. EVES,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector



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Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the
South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of South Molton, for the year 1964.

Your obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of:—

Part-time Officers—

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

G. E. MOGFORD, M.A.P.H.I.,

G. T. HILL, M.A.P.H.I.,
Additional Public Health Inspectors.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area of acres	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	8,430
Rateable Value as at 1.4.64	£122,658
Product of a Penny Rate (Year 1964/5)	£493
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at 1.4.1965) ...	2,855
Number of Council Houses	410
Extracts from Vital Statistics:—	
Births: Comparability Factor	1.19
Deaths	0.90

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—	
Number	124
Rate per 1,000 population	14.17
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	5.64
Still Births:—	
Number	3
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	23.61
Total Live and Still Births	127
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	4
Infant Mortality Rates:—	
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births	32.25
Legit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legit. Live Births	32.25
Illegit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegit. Live Births	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 Total Live Births)	32.25
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Total Live Births)	24.19
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	47.24
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):—	
Number of Deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births) ...	Nil
Deaths	94
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	11.15

POPULATION FIGURES SINCE 1950

	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950	9038	161	100
1951	9207	124	117
1952	9141	137	108
1953	9063	133	94

1954	9050	116	89
1955	9030	115	95
1956	8920	118	104
1957	8850	141	84
1958	8840	125	95
1959	8800	116	113
1960	8780	114	111
1961	8220	126	98
1962	8400	135	93
1963	8410	116	93
1964	8430	124	94

BIRTHS

During the year there were 124 live births in the Rural area as compared with 116 in 1963. There were 60 males and 64 female births.

Live Births

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	56	61	117
Illegitimate	...	...	...	4	3	7
Total ...						124
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...			14.71
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)	...	...	...	...	...	17.51

Still Births

				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	0	2	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	0	1
Total ...						3
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	...	...	...			23.61

DEATHS

During the year there were 94 deaths, of which 45 were males and 49 females.

Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	11.15
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)				10.04

The following table gives the Causes of Death:—

	M.	F.	Total
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	1	2	3
„ „ —Lung, Bronchus	3	1	4
„ „ —Breast	0	2	2
„ „ —Uterus	0	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	3	5	8
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	8	12
Coronary Disease, Angina	7	5	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	0	1
Other Heart Disease	11	11	22
Other Circulatory Disease	3	0	3
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	4	2	6
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	0	2	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	0	1	1
Congenital Malformations	0	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	0	0
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	4	2	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	0	0
All Other Accidents	0	0	0
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and Operation of War	0	1	1
Total ...	43	43	86

Deaths in age groups:—

Under 4 weeks ...	4	35 — 44 years ...	2
4 weeks—1 year ...	0	45 — 54 „ ...	5
1 — 4 years ...	0	55 — 64 „ ...	12
5 — 14 „ ...	0	65 — 74 „ ...	22
15 — 24 „ ...	0	75 + „ ...	49
25 — 34 „ ...	0		

Infant Mortality Rate

During the year 4 infants died under the age of 1 year, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 32.25. There were no deaths of illegitimate infants under one year.

Causes of Death in Infants under 1 year

Prematurity	2
Congenital Head Disease	1
Hydrocephalus	1

Maternal Mortality

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

Cancer Deaths

There were 19 deaths due to Cancer during the year as compared with 13 for the previous year. There were four deaths due to lung cancer (1 in 1963).

	M.	F.	Total
Stomach Cancer	1	2	3
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	3	1	4
Breast	0	2	2
Uterus	0	2	2
Other Cancers	3	5	8
			19

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 91 infectious disease notifications were received. The greater majority of these (80) were measles, and the outbreak started during the middle of October and the infection continued for the remainder of the year.

There were 7 cases of whooping cough.

Three cases of scarlet fever were reported and one case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis—tuberculous inguinal glands in an elderly person. There were no cases of food poisoning reported and no cases of Diphtheria or Infantile Paralysis. There were no cases of Lung Tuberculosis.

The following Table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register on 1st January and 31st December, 1964.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1st January, 1964 ...	9	14	23	7	6	13
31st December, 1964 ...	9	14	23	7	7	14

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the North Devon Water Board extended their mains from Bishopsnympton to Bish Mill and Fisher's Down, also from Five Lane End to Nutcombe, Rose Ash. 37 dwellings and 36 farms were connected to the mains.

No further consideration was given to fluoridation of water supplies in the area.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (Section 47)

No cases were dealt with under this Act during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Tuberculosis

All Tuberculous patients until March 1963 were treated at the Hawley Hospital, Barnstaple. The decline in the number of T.B. patients has, as a result, led to the closure of the hospital, all patients are now being admitted to Hawkmoor Hospital.

Maternity Cases

There is a ward of 14 beds with a fully qualified staff at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, available for maternity cases of doubt and difficulty.

Three beds are also set aside for maternity cases in the South Molton and District Cottage Hospital.

The General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is at "Highfield," Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

Cases are sent either to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter, or to the Kingsley Hospital which is situated just outside the Borough of Bideford, and is well equipped in every way for the treatment of Infectious Diseases; there are 20 beds available in cubicles for Infectious cases.

Smallpox

The Smallpox Hospital, to which cases of Smallpox will be sent is at Upton Pine. Telephone to Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, 67158, and this is the same number for the ambulance.

General

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in the Borough of South Molton, serves this area. There are 9 beds for general and maternity cases. The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, also serves the area and provides Specialists' Services.

In South Molton there are also chronic sick patients at Beech House, but no further admissions are being made.

Clinic and Treatment Centres

CHEST CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Below is a table giving the days and times of attendance.

Tuesday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		
Thursday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.		
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		
Friday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	A.P. Refills
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		

V.D. CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Times and days are as below for the sessions:—

FEMALES—Monday 4.00 p.m. Thursday 4.30 p.m.

MALES— Monday 5.15 p.m. Thursday 5.45 p.m.

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 2 District Nurse Midwives in the area.

Laboratory Facilities

The main Laboratory is situated at Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of water and milk are also carried out. The service is extremely valuable and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75, Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. There is a Blood Bank at this Laboratory.

Infant Welfare Centre

Held Thursday afternoons between 2.00 and 4.30 p.m. at 99, East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal Clinic

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 99, East Street.

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The districts served are South Molton Borough and South Molton Rural District. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the Hospital, by the doctor concerned, and the ambulance service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

I desire to thank the Clerk and the Public Health Inspectors for the help they have given me.

E. WILLIAMS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA

For the Year ended 31st December, 1964.

8, EAST STREET,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1964.

During the year 2,290 visits and inspections were made including:—

PUBLIC HEALTH—

Byelaws	...	...	...	...	251
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	10
Disinfections and Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	0
Drains inspected and tested	...	...	...	...	139
General	...	...	...	...	2
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	0
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	29
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	25
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	...	...	...	...	229
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	47
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	50
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS	...	...	...	...	106
FOOD AND DRUGS—General	...	...	...	...	24
Meat and Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	258
FACTORIES—With Power	...	...	...	...	1
Without Power	...	...	...	...	0
HOUSING—Slum Clearance, Housing Acts, Rent Act	...	...	...	...	20
Council Houses in Course of Erection	...	...	...	...	
Housing Sites and Council House	...	...	...	...	
Supervision, etc.	...	...	...	...	578
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	109
PETROLEUM REGULATIONS	...	...	...	...	15
INTERVIEWS—Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	289
MISCELLANEOUS AND MEETINGS	...	...	...	...	87
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	...	...	...	...	14
WASTE FOODS	...	...	...	...	5
SHOPS ACT	...	...	...	...	2
					2290

WATER

	No. of Houses supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Population so served	No. of Houses supplied by Standpipe on Public Mains	Estimated Population so served
Anstey East ...	23	72	—	—
Anstey West ...	18	54	—	—
Bishopsnympton ...	107	330	1	2
Buckland East ...	8	21	—	—
Buckland West ...	53	166	—	—
Burrington ...	61	200	—	—
Charles (Brayford)	39	119	—	—
Chittlehamholt ...	52	161	—	—
Chittlehampton ...	172	650	—	—
Cheldon ...	1	4	—	—
Chulmleigh ...	309	870	4	14
Creacombe ...	1	3	—	—
Filleigh ...	51	175	—	—
Georgenympton ...	33	110	—	—
Kingsnympton ...	78	216	1	3
Knowstone ...	26	84	—	—
Mariansleigh ...	55	135	—	—
Meshaw ...	25	67	—	—
Molland ...	1	3	—	—
North Molton ...	224	690	3	12
Queensnympton ...	4	14	—	—
Rackenford ...	54	164	—	—
Romansleigh ...	19	70	—	—
Rose Ash ...	40	130	—	—
Satterleigh and Warkleigh ...	14	45	—	—
Witheridge ...	221	675	11	38
Worlington East	67	240	—	—

48 Samples of Private Supplies were taken with the results as shown:—

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory ...	—	13
Unsatisfactory ...	—	35

Bacteriological Samples of Public Supplies are now discontinued.

Where the Private Water Supplies were found to be unsatisfactory, informal action was taken to have the matters remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Kingsnympton Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme was completed during the year. Little progress was made with the other outstanding schemes.

The existing disposal works were maintained satisfactorily.

HOUSING

During the year 34 houses were improved under the Standard Grant Scheme and 16 under the Discretionary Grant Scheme.

Thirteen private houses, 28 Council Bungalows and 8 Council Houses were erected during the year. 10 Council Bungalows were nearing completion at the end of the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business is:—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	1
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	2
Fish and Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	0
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	0
Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	...	...	39
Guest Houses	...	...	...	...	4
Public Houses, Hotels	...	...	...	...	25
Dairies	...	...	...	...	4

(b) Eight premises are registered for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food.

Thirty-two premises are registered for the sale and storage intended for sale of ice-cream.

Four premises are registered as dairies.

(c) All condemned food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip under supervision.

(d) FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1960

Twenty-four visits of inspection were made to food premises. Improvements and compliance with the regulations were secured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The two licensed slaughterhouses continued in regular use during the year, all of them being satisfactorily maintained. All meat killed was inspected and it was necessary to condemn 5 cwt. 2 qrt. 19 lbs. of carcase meat and 12 cwt. 1 qrt. 16 lbs. 8 ozs. of offal.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1961

No action was necessary under the above-mentioned Acts during the year.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	394	9	1,327	855	Nil
Number Inspected	394	9	1,327	855	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	9	2	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	75	Nil	76	76	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	19.03%	Nil	5.73%	8.88%	N.A.
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	28	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	3.27%	N.A.
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	Nil	13	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

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